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CLASSIFICATION

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CAPDED:		
File: 270.2-11923(4)		

TO : Chief, Pullach Operations Base  
Via: Chief, Salzburg Base  
FROM : Chief of Station, Vienna  
SUBJECT: GENERAL- Operational  
SPECIFIC- Name Traces on Kurt FECHNER and Adolf SLAWIK

DATE: 26 Sept. 1951

WGLA-7777

- The following information from the files of the Vienna Station concerning Kurt Fechner, is submitted in reply to your request for traces on FECHNER, Amu. Kurt FECHNER was being considered for operational use by this station in 1950 but at present we have no interest. Headquarters files contain a mass of material on him.

"Material compiled from London War Room documents, dated 1945, describes FECHNER as follows: Born June 5, 1896 at Leitmeritz, Bohemia. Married Herta (nee Grimm), no children. Wife is a doctor of medicine, lives at Pertisau, Austria. Nationality is Austrian. Religion is Roman Catholic. Description: height is approximately six feet; weight approximately 180 pounds; big head, long pointed face; long nose, wide forehead, blue eyes, dark blond sparse hair; exact military posture; speech is slow precise, professional in manner. Languages known are German, French, Polish, Czech. Health is delicate; he has gall stones, two stomach wounds, and only one lung.

Professional soldier; served in World War I with Austro-Hungarian Army; became Oberleutnant. After armistice attended University of Vienna. Oberstleutnant by 1938 and director of Army Institute of Science at Vienna. Anschluss of Austria with Germany brought his degradation and dismissal from service. The reason was that he was a member of the anti-Nazi "Wehrbund" and impurity of blood" (grandfather Jewish). With German invasion of Poland, called back into Army as a Private. Was commissioned and taken into Abwehr through assistance of old friend Oberst (later General) v. Lehousson, Chief, Abwehr II. By 1941 he was a Major.

Abwehr II in April, 1944 was headed by Oberst Baron Freytag, close friend of the family. FECHNER was commissioned by Freytag to organize the Leitstelle II SD-Set with headquarters at Vienna.

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Vienna was chosen as a favor to FECHNER due to his delicate health. FECHNER was ordered to send records on codes, frequencies, and hidden codes established in the Balkan area to Major Loos of Amt Mil. D. in April, 1945. He disregarded the order and sent Lt. Bauer (who speaks English) to contact an American Intelligence and inform. The SS arrived before the Americans, and FECHNER was to be shot as a traitor but was saved by the Americans. S.O.I. contacted FECHNER, who located Ziegler and Bauer, who led to the documents. FECHNER, through one of his staff members, Hptm. Siegfried Ziegler (alias Dr. Knockmann), enabled the 1st Army to recover all technical data on radio agents, as well as complete archives of stay-behind net in South-east Europe, including code names, missions, exact locations and size of ammunition and food dumps, addresses, and rendezvous points."

2. A CID file check on FECHNER was negative; however, the files of CIC Vienna contain the following:

MOIC 15117, dated 25 October 1950, mentions FECHNER. Subject of this report is Raimund STRANGL, Vienna XIII, Fasergartengasse 101/50. The investigation was conducted to determine the extent of STRANGL's intelligence activities. It is mentioned in this report that according to Dr. Wilhelm HOTT, a former Lt. Colonel FECHNER, from of Tirol had previously been employed by the French Intelligence Service but had since left their service.

SOI-L/7314, dated 29 March 1948, Subject: GIS Agents Present Affiliations, lists Kurt FECHNER, ex-Colonel, former specialist in Balkan questions, as an important member of the French II Bureau, Innsbruck.

3. Attached is a recent and comprehensive report on Adolf SLAVIK and the National League, which appeared in USFA Intelligence Summary No. 286, dated 8 December 1950. SLAVIK and his organization are so well known that it has been considered unnecessary to forward full traces. Our files are voluminous on this subject.

P.B.R

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